

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application No. 10/706,283

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are all the claims pending in the application. Presently, claims 1, 3 and 4 are amended.

Dealing with preliminary matters first, Applicant notes that the Examiner indicated acceptance of replacement Figure 9, which was filed February 22, 2005. However, the record does not reflect that the remaining figures, namely Figures 1-8 which were filed August 6, 2004, have been accepted. Accordingly, Applicant requests the Examiner to indicate acceptance of the drawings in the next action.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4 were objected to by the Examiner for various informalities. The outstanding objections are addressed as follows.

Initially, the Examiner objected to claim 1 for a lack of antecedent basis for the phrase “the plurality of sheathed conductors arranged in parallel”. Additionally, the Examiner objected to claim 4 on the same ground. In response, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 4 consistent with the Examiner’s suggestion and requests the removal of this ground of objection.

Also, the Examiner objected to claim 3 due to the term “drew out”. Applicant has amended claim 3 in order to change “drew out” to “folded back”, as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant requests the withdrawal of this ground of objection.

Finally, the Examiner objected to claim 4 because lines 15-19 of the claim are allegedly unclear. Applicant notes that lines 15-19 of claim 4 define the steps of the end-processing method of a flat cable wherein the first interconnecting part and the second interconnecting part

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are folded back along an outer face of the cover prior to the first and second interconnecting parts being superposed and bound, as described in the specification at pages 13-14, among elsewhere. Further, Applicant notes that lines 15-19 of method claim 4 correspond to lines 14-18 of apparatus claim 1, which also defines the folding back of the first and second interconnecting parts. In addition, Applicant has amended claim 4 so that the first and second interconnecting parts “extend from” the press-contacting part, as recited in claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the meaning of lines 15-19 of claim 4 is sufficiently clear, and respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the objection to this claim.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,



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